

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Paul Kravetz on 3/13/08.

The application has been amended as follows: the term "back" is changed to --pack-- in the following claims and line numbers:

- claim 1, line 15;
- claim 52, line 20;
- claim 60, lines 8 and 14;
- claim 61, lines 5, 7, 10, 11, 15, 17, 18 and 20.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1, 52, 53 and 56-61 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art fails to disclose the recited combinations of elements, including an optical communication means/interface section for transferring signals relating to inputted biometric information between the main body and battery pack, where the optical communication means comprises, a light emitting module provided for the battery pack, and a light receiving module provided for the main body and opposing the light emitting module while the battery pack is attached to the

main body, to directly receive light emitted from the light emitting module, wherein, to transfer signals relating to the inputted biometric information from the battery pack and the main body, the light emitting module emits light and the light receiving module directly receives the emitted light while the battery pack is attached to the main body, as in claims 1, 52 and 60; the prior art also fails to disclose the recited combination of elements, including first and second light emitting and light receiving modules on the main body and battery pack, wherein biometric information of a user of the mobile phone is input to the input section of the battery pack, and optical signals related to the inputted biometric information are transmitted from the battery pack to the main body by emitting light from the first light emitting module and directly receiving the emitted light by the first light receiving module while the battery pack is attached to the main body, and optical signals related to the inputted biometric information are transmitted from the main body to the battery pack by emitting light from the second light emitting module and directly receiving the emitted light by the second light receiving module while the battery pack is attached to the main body, so that the mobile phone verifies whether the user is an authorized user of the mobile phone based on the inputted biometric information, as in claim 61.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sam Bhattacharya whose telephone number is (571)272-7917. The examiner can normally be reached on Weekdays, 9-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, George Eng can be reached on (571) 272-7495. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

sb

/George Eng/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2617